

The Church of God **Evangel**

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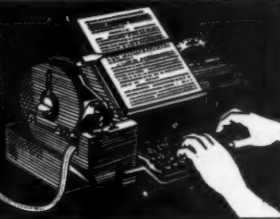
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The Church of God Evangel

Religious NEWS (EP)



RECORD BIBLE DISTRIBUTION IN MALAYA

SINGAPORE, (EP) A record total of 123,170 Bibles, New Testaments, and Bible portions in 24 languages were distributed in British Malaya, British North Borneo, and Sarawak in 1952, the Bible Societies of Malaya reported here. The Malayan organization is the agency in these areas for the British and Foreign Bible Society and the National Bible Society of Scotland. Distribution in the same areas in 1951 was 113,570 and in 1950 it was 90,688, according to the report. Included in the 1952 figures were more than 20,000 Chinese and Indian language books distributed without charge in newly established villages throughout Malaya.

HOLINESS GROUP PLANS EVANGELISM IN JAPAN

TOKYO (EP) The Japan Holiness Church (OMS) recently held their annual conference with 101 Japanese preachers, 36 Crusade workers, and 51 seminary students attending. The convention keynote was revival and a consuming passion for Japan's speedy evangelization. The Sixth World Congress on Evangelism was made a matter of daily prayer and an OMS official said, "Our hearts are encouraged to believe that we shall see the fulfillment of our goal of 350 churches established in Japan within the next 5 years, each a truly evangelistic center, covering every prefecture." Concerning the All-Japan Every-Creature Crusade, the sixth team is organized and will be joining others now entering Ibaraki and Saitama Kens, having completed their work in Chiba Ken where they organized 30 groups into churches in 14 months.

EVANGELICALS LIST 7 FREEDOMS

CHICAGO (EP) The "March of Freedom" program is being launched by the National Association of Evangelicals to call attention of the American people to the fact that the freedom which we enjoy is based on an evangelical faith in God. The nationwide observance will be touched off by a prayer and dedicatory service at the foot of the Washington Monument in Washington, D. C., on July 4, of this year. Evangelical leaders will be present and the President of the United States will be asked to direct the hearts of the nation to God in prayer for His guidance. The program is featured by a document known as the Declaration of God's Seven Freedoms, which is to be presented to the President for his signature on Independence Day, and thereafter to every Government official and citizen of

the United States, for their signatures as a renewed pledge of faith in God according to the outline in the 23d Psalm.

The Seven Freedoms listed by the NAE are as follows:

1. **FREEDOM FROM WANT**
"The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want" (v. 1).
2. **FREEDOM FROM HUNGER**
"He maketh me to lie down in green pastures" (v. 2a).
3. **FREEDOM FROM THIRST**
"He leadeth me beside the still waters" (v. 2b).
4. **FREEDOM FROM SIN**
"He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake" (v. 3).
5. **FREEDOM FROM FEAR**
"Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me" (v. 4).
6. **FREEDOM FROM DANGER**
"Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies" (v. 5a).
7. **FREEDOM TO LIVE ABUNDANTLY**
"Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever" (vv. 5, 6).

Only five Jews have been allowed to leave the Soviet Union for Israel in the past five years.

MINISTERS TO GIVE PRESIDENT BIBLE

WASHINGTON (EP) Protestant clergymen of Washington will present a desk Bible to President Eisenhower on May 25 in tribute to him for demonstrating "the power of a layman's witness." The presentation will be made at the White House by members of the Washington Ministerial Union and Washington Ministerial Alliance. The announcement was made after leaders of the clerical groups called on the President. He agreed to receive the gift at a ceremony in the White House rose garden which about 250 clergymen are expected to attend. Dr. Frederick E. Reissig, executive secretary of the Washington Federation of Churches, said officers of the ministerial groups told General Eisenhower they have been "tremendously inspired" by his regular attendance at worship services since becoming President, and the spiritual leadership this has given to the nation.

ECUADOR REPRESSING EVANGELICALS

Two recent reports from missionaries in Quito, Ecuador, tell the same story of Roman Catholic repression toward evangelical Christianity. One reports the forbidding of street meetings and a petition being circulated to have all evangelicals expelled from the country. The other report dated April 21, 1953, confirms the first and indicates that the new Minister of Government, Enriquez, a reportedly 100 percent Roman fanatic, is behind the oppression of Protestants.

Children under eighteen are not permitted in movie theatres in Switzerland.

Liquor advertisers spent 21,922,980 to buy 2,577 pages of magazine advertising in 1952, 7.6 per cent less than in 1951.

The Jewish population of the world is 11,558,830, according to statistics released by the American Jewish Committee. Twelve per cent, or 1,425,000 of the total population, now live in Israel. The United States has 5,000,000; South American countries, 833,000; and Great Britain, 450,000. Of the 600,000 Jews who once lived in Germany, only 23,000 remain, the Committee pointed out.

NOTICES

The Church of God in Eldorado, Ill., is planning a home-coming and note-burning day June 7, 1953. All the Eldoradians and their friends are invited to come back home for this great day. We are expecting one of the general officials and numbers of other visiting preachers and singers to be with us on that day. There will be an all-day service and basket dinner.—E. W. Carden, Pastor.

Anyone knowing the whereabouts of Obe Parnell, age around 73, please contact me. The last we heard he was in Shreveport, La. His home was in some part of Louisiana.—Mrs. M. C. Herndon, 106 Shirley Street, Belton, S. C.

My son is stationed at Camp Pickett, Va. I should appreciate some pastor of a Church of God near there contacting him. He is a member of the Church of God at Oconee, Ga., and Rev. A. W. Harper is the pastor there. His address is Pvt. James L. Smith, US 53191570, 2131 A.S. MRTC. Co. R & P, Camp Pickett, Va.—Mrs. James W. Smith, Route 2, Box 114, Sandersville, Ga.

Rev. A. H. Tribble, 632 Third Avenue, Ravenna, Ohio, is open for revivals. He has resigned his church at Lansing, Mich. Anyone wanting him for revivals, please contact him at this address or phone Ravenna 5473.

Some real flowers from Jerusalem, pressed and pasted on a small card, will be sent free of cost to any of our readers sending a postal card to P. O. Box 568, Jerusalem, Israel.—A. N. Dugger.

Matthew 10:29, 30, "Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? and ONE of them shall NOT FALL on the ground WITHOUT YOUR FATHER. But the very hairs of your head are all numbered."

UNINVITED DOUBTS, UNCHERISHED misgivings, tantalizing questions, and dangerous ponderings steal into the breast of the weary pilgrim in moments of trouble. Clouds of despair often hang low, hiding the day star of hope as one traverses life's valleys. Storms beat; winds howl; tempests rage; sirrocos smother; simooms suffocate in the life of the Christian as well as the unbeliever. Many have been deluded by false prophets crying, "Come thou with us. All is roseate with God's child. Your skies will be flamboyant; your health will be rubicund; your bank account will swell; your life will be lengthened; your tears will vanish; your burdens will be lifted; constant and irrepressible joy will be yours." If all these things were true, the rankest sinner would immediately accept the invitation, and earth would become a Utopia. Why not? Who wouldn't? But, wait, Friend, these things are not true to experience. Better you would look before you plunge!

It is an honest opinion of the writer that many innocent, trusting souls, born into the kingdom of God under such misleading preaching, have fallen away and have drifted back into sin simply because they were not forewarned that there would be dangerous pitfalls and sharp stones in the path, and that the lion of hell would roar and pounce upon them without notice. Overjoyed and enraptured with their new-found experience of salvation, they have gone skipping lightly along the narrow path, heedless of danger, when suddenly their flesh crawled and their blood curdled as the "accuser of the brethren" charged upon them. The prince of the air swooped down upon them as vultures dive after carrion. It is a difficult thing to knock a person down when he is expecting the blow, but the slightest push will topple the unwary soul.

Let's be honest with ourselves and others! Parade forth the fortunate Christian who has not had a baptism of tears. Is there such a one living? Having been born in a preacher's home, having been brought up in the church, and having been associated with religious folk all my life, I have not found one true son of God who has not felt the chastening rod of the heavenly Father. Paul boldly asserts that if one claims to be a child of God and has not writhed under the lash of the Father, he is an illegitimate child. How impudent, and insolent, and unbearable would we become without chastisement!!

We pastors are constantly confronted with trouble-stricken saints asking, "Why do these dark things happen? Who is the arranger of these events anyhow? If God be for us, does He know about my sorrows? DOES GOD CARE?" Hear me, Pilgrim, GOD DOES CARE. God does KNOW. God UNDERSTANDS. God KEEPS A RECORD. Yes, God keeps a BOTTLE, and He bottles up the tears of the saint. David cried, "Thou tellest my wanderings; put thou my TEARS into thy BOTTLE: are they not in thy book?" Philosophers, theologians, and profound scholars stand aghast at God's dealings. And rightly so! For His ways are so far above our ways as heaven is above earth. Are we supposed to know and understand all? Can the finite fathom the infinite? Can a raindrop overpower Niagara? Can our puny minds understand Omniscience?

In an effort to comfort bereaved ones, shepherds have

told their trembling sheep that God had nothing to do with the accident that took their baby. "God is love," they say, "and being a loving Father, He could not do such a thing!" And yet they will go right on preaching that God is Omnipotent, Omniscient, and Omnipresent. Do you see the error? Since God is Omnipotent, He had the power to avert the accident; since He is Omniscient, He knew and foresaw that it was going to happen; and since He is Omnipresent, He was right at the scene of the accident when the tires cried and metal grated, the lamentation was sent up, and the soul of the child burst its prison walls, stepped out of the body and into the arms of the Master. "The Lord giveth and the Lord taketh away, blessed be the name of the Lord." Sometimes the Good Shepherd comes into the fold and takes the precious lamb to get the rest of the sheep to follow Him. The devil cannot take life; only God can decree that our earthly existence is ended. The devil was PERMITTED to torment Job, but he could not take his life. "Well, then, Preacher, why did God permit the accident?" There is not a soul on earth who can tell you the answer. We are to trust and obey. We are to resign everything into His strong hands, being "fully persuaded that He is able to

Divinely

BY REV. JOSEPH L. MILLIGAN,

keep that which we commit unto Him." It is not ours to question "Why?" It is ours to submit and wait, for "ALL THINGS will work together for good to them that love the Lord, and who are the called according to his PURPOSE." Jesus said, "What I do thou knowest not now, but thou SHALT KNOW HEREAFTER."

GOOD GODLY PEOPLE SUFFER. It was my privilege to be in a home, a few days ago, of a precious saint of God who has suffered a thousand deaths. Having served as her pastor, it was my duty to observe her spiritual condition. I found her to be a devout soul. She prays without ceasing. Supplication can be heard coming from her little hovel of a home at all hours of the day and night. And yet, her face is almost completely gone, devoured by CANCER. She has no mouth, the lips are gone, the palate is eaten away, the teeth and gums have vanished, one eye is blinded and is swollen so tight it seems it will burst any second. Only God knows the burning, stinging pain, the indescribable horror, the unimaginable excruciation that wretched one has endured. The awful malodor of the disease is so unbearable that pine oil is burned in the house constantly. When one tries to pray, he gags in spite of all he can do. The last visit I made with her we had devotions together, and this preacher's eyes burned with scalding tears as I heard her shout and praise God. Using the fragment of the tongue that cancer is gradually claiming, she spake with other tongue as the Spirit gave the utterance, and uttered praises to her God—praises the eloquence of which would have overtaxed the power of angels to excel. "Oh," you say,

"but, Preacher, the Bible doesn't teach such doctrine!" Doesn't it? You mean you can't find righteous people suffering in Bible times? I find Joseph in the subterranean cell of prison, Jacob limping with a dislocated hipbone, **CRIPPLED BY THE ANGEL OF THE COVENANT**, Daniel in the lions' den, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego in the fiery furnace, Jeremiah in prison, Peter in prison, Paul in prison, John on desolate Patmos, Christ on the cross, and **EVERY MAN OF GOD** living a tempestuous life. Can we hope to escape?

God sends trouble to wean us away from this world. There is a lot of beauty in this old earth; we soon fall in love with it. It is all we know—we have never been in another world. We are afraid of dying and of having our bodies lowered into the banqueting room of skin worms for their regalement, and of having our naked souls to leap out into the limitless stretches of eternity. Had we no trouble we would want to stay here forever. God knows that, so in His faultless design for our lives He uses the implement of grief to cut away our clinging grasp from the terrestrial. We are not made to stay here—we are made to soar Godward. We're fearfully constructed with powers of thought, powers of invention, powers of love,

Guarded

Pastor, Sumiton, Alabama

hate, etc. God made us to love Him. He admits in His Word that He is a jealous God and that He will not tolerate our having any strange gods before us. So, looking through the blinding rain of tears, the sunset loses its fire; the mountains loom before us as spectral giants eager to devour; the queenly moon offers but a shimmering light; and the stars are all extinguished. It is hard to see the flowers all around your feet while you're wiping brine from your eye. In Missouri, a short time ago, an aged man paid a visit to the parsonage that shall never be forgotten. He said, "Preacher, I have lived 75 years. I watched this little town grow from a hamlet to its present size. Many of my old friends have already passed over. I wish I could go, too. I wouldn't turn my hand if I knew that its turning would preserve my earthly life. I want to go home." You're thinking the old man was sour, cynical, and misanthropic, aren't you? On the contrary, he was a jolly old fellow, still working every day, attending church regularly, paying his tithes religiously, giving his **ALL** to God. But then you're wondering why he wanted to leave! You see, he has had more than his share of trouble. He was the progenitor of a large family. He has had his heart trampled on by the merciless feet of his ungrateful children. He has had caskets rolled into his home several times. His brow and the brows of his children have burned often with the fires of fever. His face is cut into deep crevices with the sword of trouble. The snows of 75 winters have settled on his head and left it white. He has been heartbroken, deceived, betrayed, and abused. The result—he longs for a better country whose **Bullder and Maker is God**.

TROUBLE is also the design of God to teach us to depend on Him. We think we are so intelligent sometimes. We lay out great plans and chart all the course of our lives, leaving God out of the arrangements. We grab the helm of our vessel and call for "full speed ahead," forgetful that the Master is the Captain of our salvation and the Great Pilot over the sea of life. We sail along right smoothly for a while, and then a sudden squall blows up. The sails are rent; the masts are creaking, and when it appears we must go down, then we call upon Him. After waves of trouble, deluges of disaster, tempests of fevers, sandbars of opposition, reefs of ingratitude, we find our little bark going round and round in the swirling eddy of confusion, then and only then do we surrender the helm. He should be, He wants to be, He **WILL** be **FIRST** in our lives. Not only does He occupy His throne in heaven, but He must be enthroned in the heart. He will conquer our selfish spirit, if it requires sudden and oft-repeated attacks at the door of our castle with the battering ram of catastrophe. Let's be thankful that He cares that much for us!

Yonder outside the city, seated on the ash heap, is a man of God. Hear the wail as he learns of the destruction of all his property—cattle, sheep, camels, oxen, and, worst of all, his precious children have been slain. Notice the contortions of his face as he moves his arms. What is he doing? He has in his hand a broken flowerpot, and he is scraping the coverings from his blains and boils. Someone is coming! Perhaps it's a friend to comfort and console. Surely he needs one in his distress. Yes, the one coming is his wife, a man's best friend. But what is she saying? Can a true wife talk like this? "Dost thou still retain thine integrity? curse God and die." Others, posing as comforters, accuse him of sin and that God is requiting him for his misdemeanor.

But notice what Job says, "I would seek unto God, and unto God would I commit my cause: which doeth great things and **UNSEARCHABLE**." There you have it! Trouble scourging a man to his prayer closet. The hammer of adversity driving a man to his knees! Carnal security felled by the axe of affliction! He has said, "Call upon me in the day of trouble, I will deliver thee and thou shalt glorify me."

YOU KNOW, the prodigal son did not want to go to his father's house until all his substance was gone, his friends had fled, and pangs of hunger gnawed at his belly. While his pockets bulged with money and his gay companions were plentiful, he could forget his father. But when he reaches into his jeans and discovers his bankruptcy; when the wine glass is empty before him, and the bartender refuses to refill it; when the merry laughter of the giddy crowd is silenced and he is driven from the swanky clubhouse to the stenchful pen of the swine, he "comes to himself" and says, "I will arise and go back to my father's house." Driven home by starvation, penury, and loneliness! With every grunt of the muddy hogs, he must have become more and more homesick. Hearing the crunch of the pods in the swine's snout possibly caused his imagination to leap across the distant mountains and far-stretching meadows to his old home where the servants were rolling sweet morsels of fatted calf under the tongue. Come on home, Prodigal, the table is spread; the calf is fat; the Father has been waiting many years for your return; His feet are eager

(Continued on page 10)

From Darkness to Light

BY C. R. SPAIN, Overseer of Indiana

Mark 10:46-52

ONE OF THE MOST BEAUTIFUL miracles performed by Jesus is recorded in this lesson. These verses introduce to all Bible readers a pitiful blind beggar. How marvelous is the grace of God that reaches down into obscurity and grants forgiveness and healing to this one and all others who are under the curse of sin. The beggar's name was Bartimaeus, the son of Timaheus, which, some think, signifies that his father was also blind. This would make the curse even worse. Therefore, the miracle of healing would be even more wonderful.

Let us think about the effect blindness had upon this man's life. Being blind he was unable to see himself, and, this being the case, he could not see his own filthiness nor how he looked in the eyes of others. Then, think of all the precious things he had been unable to see in life. The sun warmed his body, but Bartimaeus was unable to behold the gorgeous sunset. He listened to the birds as they sang their lovely carols, but his blinded eyes could not see their brilliant-feathered coats. Little children played about, and he heard their voices, but never once did he look into their eyes or view the color of their rosy cheeks. Yes, this man had missed much of life.

Sin is blinding and causes those who are bound by its power to miss the most precious and the most valuable things of life. Those who are blind by the power of sin are unable to see the loveliness of Christ and the glorious salvation He has prepared for all mankind. Men are blind to the exceeding sinfulness of sin and to the destructive power it holds over them. When fallen man looks upon sin in the light of the Scriptures, its breath is like the hissing of a poisonous serpent; its hands are like the claws of a blood-thirsty vulture.

This man was not only blind, but he was poor and hopeless, because he sat by the wayside begging. Sin will impoverish all of its followers, and though it may take time, its victims are all left bankrupt in the end. Any person who doesn't have Christ is poor regardless of the money in the bank or the real estate he holds in his name. No doubt, this man had funeralized his hopes and expected to die in this blind condition. Why should he have hope? What did John say? Had he not been blind all his life? and had not his father also lived before him in this same condition?

We can gather from verse 47 that someone must have told him the young prophet Jesus was a miracle worker and that He was the son of David. Perhaps it was a sympathetic passer-by who was touched by the sight of the blind man and, after giving him a coin, endeavored to comfort him with a bit of conversation. Just how and when it happened we are not told, but it is conclusive that someone informed Bartimaeus that Jesus was the son of David and that for his darkness this Man would give him light.

THE ROAD from Jerusalem to Jericho was heavily traveled, and daily the blind man listened to the commotion of traffic. Travelers passing by, no doubt, taught about the conditions of the town; shepherds and farmers complained about the dry, hot weather; Levites and priests, journeying on their way, discussed the Temple and the dogmas of Judaism; political-minded citizens found fault with Pilate; and the noise of heavily-laden beasts could be heard without end. But one day, Bartimaeus heard a different type of noise, for the crowd that was now passing with Jesus was praising and adoring the young Prophet from Galilee.

Someone must have spoken the name of Jesus, and the heart of Bartimaeus was thrilled with excitement. For him this was no time to ponder; neither should he wait for a better opportunity. To this poor man life had been dark and drab, but the golden day of opportunity had dawned. The Scripture states that, "He (Jesus) came to Jericho . . . and went out of Jericho," but this visit was Bartimaeus' day of grace. He was told that Jesus of Nazareth was passing by. This blessed occasion called for action, and the blind man began to cry, "Jesus, thou son of David, have mercy on me." This was the pathetic cry of a desperate man. Each word seems to be bathed with tears, and the plaintive cry comes throbbing to us down through the centuries. Some of the bystanders did not care for this emotional outburst, or else they did not believe that Jesus was the Son of David, so quite harshly they commanded him to be still. Instead of obeying their commands, he cried the more a great deal. Thank God, this man kept calling and calling until he attained his goal. There are those religious leaders in the professed church today who will warn you against any kind of physical exertion. They instruct, "Let us be quiet; let us be calm. There is no need to be excited." Whether we are quiet or noisy, excited or calm, let us keep calling until we get to Jesus.

The first phrase in verse 49 teaches us that Jesus is approachable at all times. As the dejected blind man called—how glorious, how wonderful—"Jesus stood still." One of the greatest thrills that belongs to the human soul is that we can go directly to Jesus Christ. Many would have us to believe that this is impossible and that if we approach Him it must be through a personality of some higher office or through a departed saint. The Word of God admonishes us to come boldly to a rich throne of grace, there to make our wants and petitions known. What a beautiful sight—a dirty, bedraggled beggar receiving attention from the Prince of Glory!

The Lord is not like the important and wealthy men of this world. Though they might have been born poor as they accumulate wealth and fame, they surround themselves with secretaries until it is almost impossible for the common man to make an appointment. Barti-

maeus had no registered appointment, and he was not able to send in an engraved calling card, but he could call, and his cry caused the Creator to stand still.

LET US BEHOLD what was actually happening. The land of the condemned was calling the King of Righteousness. Might we say, Bartimaeus was using his calling-and-receiving set to contact another world. I recall the first radio set my father purchased when I was a boy. This set had both the long- and the short-wave bands, and, quite often at night, after the others had retired, we would sit and listen to the voices that came in over the short wave. What a thrill it was to listen as one station in one country would call to the station of another country. Perhaps from New York the operator would call some station in London, England, and how our hearts did thrill as the operator would try and try again to make this faraway contact! Sometimes the interference and static popped and crashed until the noise was almost deafening.

Repeatedly New York would call London, and we boys would sit by the speaker, all excited, and say one to another, "I surely hope he makes it." After a long pause London would answer. Across the waves would come the voice, "Hello, New York, this is London. What can I do for you?" To us this was such a great sensation—one country had made contact with another. Let us listen to Bartimaeus as he called, for the land of sin was calling, calling the land of righteousness. The static pops and cracks, trying to stop Bartimaeus' calling, but repeatedly the country of disease is calling the country of healing. Finally, after a short pause, The Station of Healing responds by saying, "Darkness, this is the Land of Light; Sorrow, this is the Country of Joy." Then the thrill of all thrills—hallelujah! Complete contact is made, for Jesus says, "Bartimaeus, what can I do for you?" Thank God, Jesus stood still and commanded the blind man to be brought to Him.

BARTIMAEUS was informed that Jesus was calling for him and across the weather-beaten face, the sightless eyes, there came a smile of joy. After this waiting and calling, nothing was going to stand in his way; so, in order to make speed and have no interference, he casts his garment aside. This is a strong expression of determination. That old coat had been his source of pleasure and comfort. For him it had been his protection, but now he was headed for a new source of pleasure, and someone else would be his comfort and protection. Nothing was to impede his progress; he was so determined to allow nothing to be in his way. There, standing in the presence of his Maker, how his pulse must have pounded, and surely in his voice there was a tremble, when Jesus said, "What would thou that I do unto thee?" As Jesus uttered these words, He opened the doors to the treasures of heaven. Why did Jesus ask this? Surely He could see the man was blind, and his sight was all he wanted. The Master wanted to hear him ask for what he needed, as a father wants to hear his child ask for a drink of water. How often have we heard little children, even our own, ask for water. Most every little fellow seems to find it so difficult to say the word "water." He will stutter and try and try again as the father coaxes him. He knows what the child desires, and he would drain that faucet, if necessary, to give him all that he wants. He only wants to hear him ask more definitely, and all the time he is planning to satisfy his every de-

sire. What Jesus wanted Bartimaeus to do was to ask and state definitely what he desired. The Lord would have bankrupt heaven to satisfy this poor blind beggar.

He knows what we need, and He has made provision for our desires to be granted. "Ask, and ye shall receive . . ." James, the practical writer, declares that we have not because we ask not.

Jesus said to Bartimaeus, "Go thy way, thy faith hath made thee whole; and immediately he received his sight." Although Jesus gave him the liberty to go his way, Bartimaeus followed the One who had delivered him. This is conclusive evidence that the blind man had not only been healed, but also spiritually blessed of the Lord. He followed Jesus in the way. Jesus was leaving Jericho, for this was the cursed city, and He was journeying toward Jerusalem, the city of peace. By following Christ he was leaving behind the city of curse and journeying to the city of peace. This is what the Master's touch will do for fallen man. It will turn him about and he will gladly journey in another direction. One will not only leave the old haunts of sin, but as he leaves he will be happy.

Jesus had an appointment in Jerusalem, for in the eleventh chapter the Lord rides triumphantly into the City of Jerusalem. Those who followed Him were present for this glorious event. Since Bartimaeus was following the Lord, it is conclusive that he, too, was there. As many of them placed their garments on the road for the colt, upon which Jesus was riding, to tread on, we would suppose Bartimaeus got a palm bough, especially since his coat had been cast aside, and, waving it enthusiastically, he shouted, "Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord!"

Thank God, there is going to be another triumphal entry, and it will take place in another Jerusalem. That triumphant entry will culminate, not with Christ leaving the city, but with Christ being crowned eternally. The praising, adoring, shouting multitude will be constituted of many who were physically blind in this world, and all of them will have been delivered from spiritual blindness. They will be those who have received light, yes, eternal light that replaced their dismal darkness. Will you be in that number?



A prayer in its simplest definition is merely a wish turned Godward.—Phillips Brooks.

FOUNDATIONS

"If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?" —Psalm 11:3

By G. W. COOPER, Pastor, Gaffney, S. C. (Father)



BIBLICAL HISTORY tells us that as David penned Psalm 11 he was undergoing the most severe test of his life, and that was brought about because of the jealousy of Saul, who was the king of Israel, on account of the saying, "Saul hath slain his thousands, and David his tens of thousands." From this time forth Saul tried to kill David, but God, who is above all, protected him.

Let us notice just a little further. It is said that the friends of David feared for his safety, which is the reason of the statement in the last clause of verse 1, "Flee as a bird to your mountain," or, as many would put it, "Take refuge in the mountain." But, thank God for the statement which describes the faith of David—"In the Lord put I my trust." Then his friends come back with verse 3, "If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?" They are saying here, "If the *government* (literally, as well as spiritually) be corrupt, or the very foundation be destroyed, to what else can we look?"

It was so at this writing. Saul had disobeyed God to the extent he no longer got a revelation from God, and had to go to the *witch* of Endor to try to find out God's will for Israel. It is also stated that the priesthood was so corrupt at this time that neither could they get an answer from God. So we can see why the statement of our text was made.

I wonder if my reader can see any similarity of the conditions in the day of our text to the day in which we live? Do we see any governments in our day that have left God out of their programs until they no longer depend on Him for their acts or deeds? What will happen to the nation, or individual, that leaves God out of their programs? You and I will have to look, as David did, away from the things of this earth, that seem to be about to crumble and decay, to a place where we can be secure. David said in verse 4, "The Lord is in his holy temple, the Lord's throne is in heaven." So, if God is in His temple, and His temple is in heaven, all who trust in Him have nothing to fear, for if this world in which we now live is brought to chaos, our God will still reign as King of kings and Lord of lords.

Now let us turn our eyes to the spiritual side of this text. *Matthew Henry Commentary* has this to say about Psalm 11 in relation to Israel: "He looks upon this suggestion as striking at the foundation which every Israelite

builds upon. If you destroy the foundations; if you take good people off from their hope in God; if you can persuade them that their religion is a cheat and a jest and can banter them out of that, you ruin them, and break their hearts indeed, and make them of all men the most miserable."

The principles of religion are the foundations on which the faith and hope of the righteous are built. If these be destroyed; if we let these go, what can we do? Good people would be undone if they had not a God to go to, a God to trust in, and a future bliss to hope for. Today religion is being challenged as never before in our day, not only by avowed infidels and atheists, but by some ministers, as well as laymen.

Let us examine some of the doctrines of the early church which are being challenged. This is our foundation. "Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God, and are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the chief corner stone," Ephesians 2:19, 20.

THE DIVINITY OF CHRIST

Many today say that Christ was a good man but was not divine. They substitute for the divinity of Christ humanitarianism and the brotherhood of man, which they claim Jesus taught and practised. Humanitarianism is (1) the regard for the interest of mankind, (2) the tenet denying the divinity of Christ, (3) the doctrine that man's obligations are limited to and dependent alone on man and human relations, (4) the doctrine that man's nature is perfectable through his own efforts, without divine grace.

The *Encyclopedia Britannica* has this to say: "Is a term applied to a school of men who repudiate the doctrine of the Trinity and hold an extreme view of the person of Christ as simply human."

The *Americana Encyclopedia* says: "A term applied to various classes of people who are anti-trinitarians, who regard Christ as mere man."

Someone, no doubt, will ask why I give all this information. Because of the fact that in one state alone, of this country of ours, there are more of this kind of people

(Continued on page 10)



"Not by Might ...

but by My Spirit"

By JAMES W. COOPER, Pastor, Rochelle, Ill. (Son)

A RECENT N.A.E. CONVENTION had for its theme "NOT BY MIGHT ... BUT BY MY SPIRIT." As I gazed upon the huge banner with these words, eternity seemed to flash through my mind. I beheld God in the beginning of time when He began to form this great universe of which we are only a part. "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the SPIRIT of God moved upon the face of the waters." I visualized, in my imagination, the beautiful Garden of Eden and God's masterpieces—Adam and Eve. Certainly, in the remote recesses of His mind, He must have thought the creation was good and great. Man, in his open rebellion against his Maker, with his own might and power of choice, lost all that was good, holy, and beautiful. Since his origin, man, in his transitory move from one generation to another, has devised means of escape or evasion of the SPIRIT, but thanks be unto God, he has found his efforts futile. This one great cord has held him in the position that he must be cognizant of the supernatural.

The power of evil forces is appalling, but God alone is omnipotent. The devil has tried unsuccessfully to overthrow God's order and thwart God's desires for man. He began his program in heaven. He was one of God's angels cast out of heaven because of his desire to become greater than God. He began his program on earth by deceiving man and persuading him to ignore God's commandments. Man listened, as is so often the case, and is suffering the consequences.

If man would detect the satanic forces that are active in the church today, he would make greater strides in his combat against the evils in the Christian realm. It does not necessarily mean that one will suffer *immediate* defeat by following Satan's channel or his program. The individual or group may follow such satanic controlled plans for years and come to the realization of its course and stem the tide. Man, in his mad rage for exaltation, will try anything feasible, instead of adhering to God's commands, and thus becomes an easy prey to the enemy.

The devil's plan for this age is to get God's Church to become chiefly concerned with the quantity instead of the quality. As a means to an end, the devil will suggest an alternative to achieve the desired results with an eva-

sion of the marvelous, wonder-working, supernatural SPIRIT of a loving God. I am not a defeatist when I assert that God's people have always been in the minority. My heart pulsates with unnatural rapidity when I look to God's Word with spiritual insight and behold the core of Matthew 7:14, "Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and FEW there be that find it." These few heroes of faith have been tested and tried and will come forth as pure gold. God will have nothing in heaven but a tested, tried, and proved group of people.

I am not a prober of sore spots when I say the church is facing crucial days. We stand breathlessly on the threshold of a new era. Every moment seems to pulsate with emotion. SPIRIT-filled Christians feel, with a sense of unanimity, that we are nearing the end of the age. If we are going to stand, not only stand but fight for the right, we should, in these days of uncertainty, declare war on SPIRITUAL opposition. As was pointed out in the N.A.E. meeting, there are three grave perils facing the Church today—Communism, Materialism, and Modernism. These perils of and in the Church are instigated by the satanic forces. We must become aware that these forces are tearing down the foundation and principles undergirding the body of Christ. Can we sit idly by and let these forces take control? or shall we let God, who has never failed, fight our battle?

COMMUNISM

COMMUNISM IS a stark reality. There are those who ask, "Why paint everything red?" One does not have to paint everything red to realize that there are anti-God forces gripping the world and eating silently into the Church. The major program of the communists is to defeat the Church, destroy all Bibles, and put to death all who name the name of Christ. Some of the gruelling experiences of Christians behind the Iron Curtain and the Bamboo Curtain are incredible. The horrible torture inflicted upon these faithful soldiers of the cross will almost make the blood curdle in your veins. Certainly it is nothing more than an all-out effort by the satanic forces of hell to do away with God-fearing people. These communistic hordes have plenty of territory and wealth, but

(Continued on page 11)

DIVINELY GUARDED

(Continued from page 5)

to run to greet you; His lips are anxious to place upon your soul the kiss of pardon; His arms are outstretched to encompass you; the guests are waiting to commence the celebration; angels are poised for swift flight to announce your arrival; prophets, patriarchs, apostles, and martyrs in the heavenly galleries of that great cloud of witnesses are watching your struggle and are desirous to sound the trump of victory, to rise to their feet and give a resounding cheer that you have overcome the destroyer of souls, even Satan.

You see, fellow sufferer, God would not have us to be idiots. We are His redeemed children, and, being such, we must sit at the Father's feet and learn of Him. It is utterly impossible for one to graduate from the school of experience without first having learned his lessons. We are being trained, tutored, and equipped to be priests and kings. Under the old dispensation, priests were set apart for their sacred duties by a sprinkling of blood. We become qualified for the office of sympathy, understanding, and kindness by a sprinkling of tears. Have you tried in vain to sympathize with bereft ones? Call to the innermost depths of your nature for tears in that dark hour, and there is no response without first you have trudged the valley of bereavement. When once a coffin has been rolled into your home, you will not strain to sympathize with others. Tears will naturally flow for others suffering the pangs of loneliness. From that day forth you will know just how to act, just what to say, just how to grasp the trembling hand, just the right pressure to exert as your arms enfold the bereft one. Oh, how clumsy we can be at such a time if we have had no trouble. How heartless our words; how frivolous our spirit; how dry the eyes; how noisy and irreverent the step; and light and chaffy our conversation; and how merry the inopportune laughter!

"Does God care?" you ask. Look again at my text. He watcheth the flight of the sparrow. He hears its chattering and chirping as it playfully darts through the trees and around the gables of the house. He listens intently to its song of praise. And then, He takes cognizance of its injury, its fall, and its expiring groan. "One of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father." If such attention is given a sparrow, does He not care for souls that will outlive suns, stars, the moon, and all the galaxies? "But I am in a terrible predicament, Preacher," you cry. Listen, Friend, "the steps of a good man are ORDERED of the Lord." You're being divinely directed if you're His. With the eye of the mind, I see three millions of God's children fleeing from Egypt. What are they following? **THE SHEKINAH**—God in the cloud and God in the pillar of fire, and **YET**—led into a valley surrounded by mountains, with the enemy approaching from the rear and with the raging sea in the foreground. Were they there because of their straying from the God-chosen path? No! He led them there. They were led there to witness the miraculous power of Jehovah, to roll up His sleeve, divide seas, and deliver His children. Stand still, affrighted voyager, you shall still see the salvation of the Lord.

*Do not wait for extraordinary circumstances to do good actions; try to use ordinary situations.—
Jean Paul Richter.*

FOUNDATIONS

(Continued from page 8)

than the entire membership of the Church of God.

What the Bible has to say about the divinity of Christ: "Matthew 3:16, 17, "And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him, and lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved son, in whom I am well pleased." Matthew 17:5; Mark 9:7, "And there was a cloud that overshadowed them: and a voice came out of the cloud, saying, This is my beloved son, in whom I am well pleased." Other scriptures are Genesis 1:26 and John 1:1-3, 14.

THE BLOOD OF CHRIST

There are those who say we preach a slaughter-house religion when we preach there is no other source of cleansing for a guilty soul save the blood of Jesus. Here's what the scriptures have to say on the matter: "Hebrews 9:22, "And without shedding of blood there is no remission." John 1:29, "The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world." Revelations 13:8, "The Lamb slain from the foundation of the world?" Revelations 1:5, "Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood." See Hebrews 9:28; Isa. 53:5; Hebrews 13:12. Revelation 5:9, "For thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood, out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation." We can see by the foregoing scriptures that the blood of Christ is the only source of forgiveness, regardless of what men say about the blood.

REPENTANCE

Webster says, "(1) To feel penitence or regret for past conduct. (2) To change the mind with regard to one's conduct." John taught it, Matthew 3:2, Christ taught it. Mark 1:5. Luke 13:3, 5 says, "Except ye repent ye shall all likewise perish." So it's repent or perish.

I believe old time Mount Sinai repentance will stop a man from sinning.

CONFESSION

I believe we are to confess our sins to be forgiven, and make restitutions where possible. The reason so many of our converts today do not stand is because they are not willing to pay the price. When I was saved twenty-seven years ago, people confessed their sins to God, and also to men, where they had done them wrong. It wasn't anything strange for someone to leave the altar saved tonight and find them tomorrow going about paying for things they had stolen and defrauded men of, paying old grocery bills they said before conversion they would never pay. 1 John 1:9, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." Proverbs 28:13, "He that covereth his sins shall not prosper; but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy." Luke 19:1-9, "Zacchaeus stood, and said unto the Lord; Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have taken any thing from any man by false accusation, I restore him four fold." Let's hold to the old landmarks which are the foundation of the church—the new birth, sanctification, Holy Ghost, divine healing, tithing, feet washing, etc. I believe the Bible to be the infallible Word of God. Let's be doers of the Word and not hearers only, deceiving our own selves.

NOT BY MIGHT...BUT BY MY SPIRIT

(Continued from page 9)

the primary desire is to stamp out the Church. I believe most anyone, minister or layman, will agree that Communism is one of the greatest perils facing the Church today. All of Stalin's successors, with their mechanized units, will never accomplish their hellish desires. God's Holy Writ declares that "every knee shall bow and every tongue shall confess that Jesus Christ is LORD." There is a crimson flow from Calvary that will dim the glare of the reddest hues of Communism, but remember, body of Christ, it is "not by MIGHT . . . but by my SPIRIT, saith the Lord."

MODERNISM

COMMUNISM presents a sad picture, but there are other forces that are as equally destructive within the Church. Modernists tell us today to not take our religion too serious. Some even deny the power of the blood of Christ to forgive sins. They tell us we preach a slaughter-house theology I am aware that these are extreme cases; however, the Modernist's trend of thought has made rapid advances, even in the Pentecostal world. These thinkers would have us to alter God's Word and compromise with the world to satisfy their materialist desires. "Make the club larger with more members to pay regular dues," some will say. I sincerely say that some religious gatherings have no more spiritual value than a social or club meeting, with the pastor as presiding officer. They have a form of godliness, but they deny the power or SPIRIT of God. We are commanded to have no part with such a hypocritical form of worship. Christ condemned the scribes and Pharisees for their playing at religion, but we see the same Christ moved with compassion for the hell-deserving sinner. I am reminded of Christ taking the whip and running the moneychangers out of the Temple of God, when I think of our desecrating the house of God with our light, cheap frivolity. The chief concern of every church should be the salvation of lost men and women. God's Word declares that no man cometh unto God except His SPIRIT draw him. The manifestation of the SPIRIT of God in our local services will create a hunger and thirst in the heart of sinners for the experiences we not only profess but possess. I admit that a well-planned program with a bit of oration will make the intelligensia spurt with glee, but the applause of man will not vindicate us. Jesus Christ is a gentleman and will not force Himself into our homes, lives, or churches. There are those today, however, who are living consecrated lives, and desire to be led by the SPIRIT of God. Modernists may criticize and even compromise, but God has a David that will accept the challenge of the *giant*.

MATERIALISM

MODERN THINKERS in the religious realm assert that materialistic aims should be the primary motive of a growing organization. It would be impossible to separate the literal Church from the spiritual Church; however, when a spiritual group becomes materialistic-minded, God's course for His people is altered. The construction of beautiful, expensive structures for places of worship and of residences for the pastors is nice and admired by most everyone, but as food for thought, do these things retard our spiritual growth? In reading God's Word we find where a certain man was increased in goods. He tore down his old buildings and built new ones, neglecting the soul, and he suffered loss. It does not denote failure in our spiritual walk if we enjoy the comforts of materialistic gains. The Scripture tells us to seek *first* the kingdom of heaven, and all these other things will come our way to help us enjoy living a Christian life. I believe we can have what we want if we live a consistent Christian life; however, the history of man ascertains the fact that man becomes complacent in his material attainments, and, as a result, it means his spiritual death, with the possibility of an eternal loss. The devil must chant with childish glee over the ministry and laity becoming concerned with new cars, fine homes, beautiful clothes, big salaries, and "a chicken in every pot." The same individuals will grumble over the amount of money going to Headquarters, money spent for missions, tithes paid to local pastors, and finance in general required to

carry on God's business. It can easily be seen what the devil will do to hamper SPIRITUAL progress when we become materialistic minded.

The Church is facing some crucial days, and the secondary things we introduce into the Church program will not supplant the SPIRIT. The success of the Pentecostal movements can be accredited to the Holy Ghost, our Guide. The ministers and laity have been baptized with the Holy Ghost and have lived SPIRIT-filled lives. If we, as Pentecostal people, fail to recognize this fact and try to calm things down to a program, failing to let the Holy Spirit have free course in our services, we will drift into the same plight of other organizations. We don't have to go back to the good old days to have old-time power being made manifest in our services. "Christ is the same yesterday, TODAY, and forever." God demands a surrendered life, and a life thus yielded obligates God to move in our behalf. God the Holy Ghost must charge the very air we breathe if we are to continue to be the spiritual force we should be in these days of crises in the world as well as in the Church. Certainly the forces of hell have mustered themselves together for an all-out-attack against God's people. God has brought us to great victories through His mighty miracle-working power. These great victories were wrought "not by MIGHT . . . but by my SPIRIT."

MODERNISTS and materialistic-minded people, compromising the spiritual for the material, should be reminded that lost souls are going to hell not only from the movies and the taverns but from the pews of the church. The whole Church and Christendom in general has felt the recent rend to the material, and God has looked upon our backsliding. His great heart is moved with compassion for our erring from the truth. We must expand our facilities to accommodate our attendance, but never let it be said that we compromised the quality for the quantity. How many of our members have the witness of the Holy Ghost and feel His continual presence? How many preachers stand behind the sacred desk and never feel the anointing of the Holy Ghost? With some there is an eye of scorn and criticism for the manifestations of the SPIRIT. Some would rather this take place on Wednesday night than on Sunday night, and there are a few who would prefer something of that nature done in secrecy. There is more to this walk with Christ than just shouting and having a good time, but our rejoicing in the house of God will create a desire in the heart of sinners to feel the joys of heaven.

Man today is burdened down with fear and conditions never experienced in past generations. I believe a return to the spiritual zeal and gusto of our first experiences with the Holy Spirit will be a deciding factor in these days of uncertainty. Men's hearts are failing them because of fear, and their major problem is a spiritual one. Neither Communism, Modernism nor Materialism has the solution to the problem. Man, in his selfish motives, has proved down through the span of time that the only permanent and indispensable matters are those wrought by THE SPIRIT.



There is not a heart but has its moments of longing, yearning for something better, nobler, holier than it knows now.—Henry Ward Beecher.

An aged Christian, with the snow of time upon his head, may remind us that those points of earth are whitest which are nearest to heaven.

—E. H. Chapin.

New Church Dedicated in Nassau, Bahamas



IT WAS MY HAPPY privilege to be present and to preach the dedicatory sermon in the beautiful cathedral which stands as a monument to the faith and untiring efforts of Rev. W. V. Eneas and his loyal and faithful congregation.

On Sunday, April 19, at 2:30 p.m. the large congregation, with a host of visitors and well-wishers, assembled in front of the old wooden church to begin their victorious march to the new church building, located on Lily of the Valley Corner. The band, playing "Onward Christian Soldiers," led the procession through the narrow streets. Then, marching around the church building, they assembled in front, waiting for Rev. Eneas to unlock the doors to this beautiful edifice. The church was packed to overflowing, with a large number standing on the outside.

The program was well arranged. Timely speeches were made by Government officials, visiting ministers, and prominent laymen. Choirs from several Baptist churches, along with those from our own churches, rendered many beautiful numbers. Rev. Brown, a Baptist minister, proved his efficiency by raising an offering of more than 200 pounds.

A very spicy item on the program, which brought great applause, was titled "Vital Statistics" and was given by Rev. W. R. Franks, former overseer of the Island, who served as secretary of the new church. He told of the sacrifices that were made by the people. Some gave a pound of nails, others several feet of lumber, some gave cement blocks, some paid for doors and windows, while others brought food to those who were giving free labor. Then, after giving a financial report, he ended by telling us the number of cement blocks, bags of cement, feet of lumber, pounds of nails, bundles of shingles, amount of sand and gravel, paint and lime that were used in the building.

Rev. M. W. Patterson, the island overseer, gave a vote of thanks to all who took part in the program and who had contributed in any way in the erection of this building. Visitors from the U.S.A. attending the dedication were: William Largin and wife; Evangelist Maude Largin, of Atlanta, Ga.; Evangelist Margaret Hellman, of Pennsylvania; Miss Ollie Sisk, of Miami, Fla.; Rev. John H. Curry, of Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.; and Mrs. Henry C. Stoppe.

BRIEF HISTORY OF THE CHURCH

IN 1910, Edmond Barr and his wife, who had recently received the baptism of the Holy Ghost at a holiness camp meeting in Durant, Fla., came to Nassau preaching the Pentecostal message. Later, in the same year, Brother R. M. Evans came to the Island preaching the same message. It was during his ministry that Rev. E. V. Eneas and his wife were converted, on March 15, 1911. This same year Brother Evans set the Church of God in order with three members—Brother Eneas, his wife, and Ernest Lowe. Their first building was a small rented house, but most of the services were held on the street corners. Later, Brother Eneas rented another small house at the cost of one shilling per week.

As the work progressed and the followers increased, a site was purchased at a place called Hospital Lane. Here a thatched camp was built. Sometime later this property was sold, and a nice piece of land was purchased on E Street corner, which is the present site of their old wooden building. After a time it was necessary to enlarge this building to meet the demand of a growing congregation.

Realizing the need of a more desirable location and a more spacious auditorium, the congregation, in 1947, bought the large lot, 100 by 120 feet, for the amount of 600 pounds on a main thoroughfare, where the new building now stands. Since they did not have money to even make the down payment, the deacon and assistant pastor mortgaged their humble dwellings to meet this debt. However, by the end of 1948, they had made their last payment on the land. Believing that issues in which God has a stake can never ultimately be defeated, the congregation immediately made plans to raise funds for the building of the new church. So that which was once a dream and vision has now become a reality. The new church, 40 by 80 feet, is made of cement blocks. Although Rev. Eneas is nearing his 70th birthday, his zeal and faith are still undaunted. He is looking forward to many fruitful years of pastoral service.

BY HENRY C. STOPPE,
Superintendent, West Indies and Bermuda.

NEWS LETTER FROM HAITI

DURING THE MONTH of March, we had a short school for the workers of the Port-au-Prince District. On Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays there were classes in Old Testament, New Testament, doctrine, and homiletics. On Tuesdays and Thursdays the time was divided half and half between remedial classes in reading, grammar, pronunciation, etc., and miscellaneous classes in practical church work, such as music, Sunday School work, youth work, the church service, special days, the preacher and his work, manners, etc. About 20 students attended.

One of the principal needs of the work in Haiti is trained workers. Paul said to Timothy: "And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also." 2 Timothy 2:2. Jesus said in the Great Commission: "Go ye therefore and teach all nations . . . baptizing them . . . teaching them . . ." Matthew 28:19, 20. To the extent that we prepare workers to go into the harvest, to that extent the work will prosper. Otherwise the work will suffer. Pray with us that God will call laborers into the harvest. Any program of training needs to begin with young men and women who are already called of God and to that extent spiritually qualified for the work.

I am leaving today for Cayes where there is a workers' school in progress. I plan to stay several days.

In February I visited most of the churches on the Port-au-Prince District with Brother Lacombe, the district pastor. One Wednesday afternoon and night we went to Cabaret. At about 4 o'clock in the afternoon 6 persons were baptized in water. A brush arbor had been built in front of the church building for the service that night. I preached on "The Sources of Christian Courage," and afterwards Brother Lacombe had all the Christians pray together in a consecration prayer. After several minutes of prayer, Brother Lacombe noticed that a young girl who had been baptized that afternoon was praying through the Holy Ghost in Spanish. I listened, and it was Spanish. As many of you know, Virginia and I were in the Dominican Republic for two and a half years, and Spanish is spoken there. Brother Lacombe said that she was just an illiterate country girl, who couldn't speak French, the official language of Haiti, as well as she was speaking Spanish through the Holy Ghost. She prayed for several minutes with references to the death of the Lord Jesus, salvation, and the second coming. As I listened I thought of the many times I had heard Christians in the Dominican Republic pray in the very same way, only they were praying in their own language, and I realized that this girl did not understand a word of what she was saying. The Lord blessed that night. Heaven swung low; our hearts were melted and our spirits lifted up. Oh, the times and the circumstances when the Lord pulls back the curtain and reveals Himself! Then we realize more than ever that we are standing in His presence.

After the service, I spoke to this girl in Spanish and asked her if she had ever lived where Spanish was spoken and thereby learned it. She just looked blank and said in Creole, "Pas konne" (I don't understand).

Pray with us that God will bless His work, for it is His work and we are colaborers with Him. He knows the needs, and His resources are limitless.—James M. Beaty.

WEST VIRGINIA HAS FULL-TIME MISSIONS REPRESENTATIVE

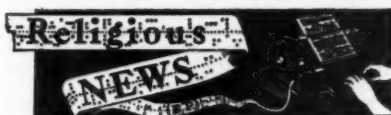


Rev. Paul T. Nance

WEST VIRGINIA, being a state that enjoys making new attempts and exploring new territories, fell upon a plan for our missionary efforts that is not presently being employed by any other state, to our knowledge. We are very gratified with the response from the field.

We have secured the full-time services of Reverend Paul T. Nance as our mission representative. Brother Nance, having served as missionary overseer of Haiti, has many beautiful pictures and curios to show, and this, plus a missionary heart, gives to him a hearty welcome in all the churches.

It is Brother Nance's purpose to better acquaint our churches with our missionary efforts, as well as to help them raise money for missions. We feel that our plan is working exceptionally well and that we will be more than pleased with the financial results at the end of the year.—G. W. Lane, Overseer of West Virginia.



CENTRAL AMERICAN MINISTER MURDERED

IN APRIL 6, 1953, at 8:30 p.m., in the Indian town of Alotenango, in the Republic of Guatemala, in Central America, about forty miles from the capital city, a mob of some three hundred persons, mostly Indians, attacked the chapel of the Immanuel Holiness Mission, of which Reverend Ray Trotsky, of Guatemala City, is the superintendent. The local pastor, Maximiliano Vasquez, was first struck over the head with a club. He ran to his home near-by, saying that they had nearly killed him, and although the house was barred, the mob broke down the door and with clubs and large stones beat the 26-year-old pastor to death. Twenty other believers, including the pastor's wife, were injured so badly that they needed hospitalization. The autopsy of the murdered pastor indicated that he had been beaten with stones and clubs and cut with machetes, both ears being completely severed and one of his arms severely cut.

At the funeral, held in Guatemala City, about forty miles away, approximately one thousand evangelical Christians paid their respects to the martyred Christian leader. Before the burial it was found necessary to obtain a certificate in the town of Alotenango where the murder had taken

place. The mission superintendent at the capital city, Reverend Trotsky, requested Brother Birchard and a brother of the deceased, with one other man and two ladies, to return to Alotenango for the necessary document. When the party arrived, they learned that the chief of police, an evangelical of a near-by city, Vieja, had been given charge of the prosecution of the responsible parties to the crime, and he took the evangelicals to the scene of the crime.

It would be difficult for any but an eyewitness to have any idea of the violence which the scene indicated. The murdered pastor's home was a shambles—large pieces of rock littered the floor; windows and doors were smashed; beds, chairs, tables, a stove, two organs, an accordion, and four guitars were wantonly destroyed, and their parts scattered all about. Bibles, song books, and other literature were torn to shreds. Blood-spattered stones and clubs in the house and yard gave mute but effectual testimony to the sufferings endured by the martyred pastor and his flock. The pastor's wife had been struck over the eye as she held her little baby in her arms before it was taken to safety in a near-by town. The violence involved the jailing of fourteen persons and the official questioning of at least three more.

The official investigations brought out the revelation that the Roman Catholic priest of Ciudad Vieja has been the instigator of the violence; that more than three hundred persons had gathered from various places and the women were incited to bring baskets filled with rocks; and that after the awful violence had ended,

the priest fled and is still in hiding.

It is learned that in true Christian martyr spirit, the church and family of the slain pastor have refused to prosecute the guilty ones, but the governor has declared he will see that the guilty are brought to justice. A further instance of the dying pastor's emulation of the martyr Stephen of the New Testament is that he lovingly tried to embrace in forgiveness the ones who dealt him the hardest blows, until his skull was finally crushed. All throughout the funeral, with nearly one thousand in attendance, there was noted a spirit of pardon for the guilty and a desire for their salvation.

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REPORTS

PENNIES MAKE DOLLARS



Pictured above is a part of our faithful Y.P.E. group of which we are very proud. This is also the winning side of our penny contest recently held at the local church at Amelia, Va., with their group leader, Alice Rebecca McKay, who is standing behind the table of pennies. Our Y.P.E. agreed to help pay for the shingles on the church. This contest consisted of both juniors and seniors, and they were divided into a red and blue side. We had two half-gallon jugs, one red and one blue. The side that filled its jug with pennies first was the winning side. The red side got their jug filled first, with 3,950 pennies; and the blue side got 3,160 pennies, making a total of 7,110 pennies, which is \$71.10. The last night of the contest the red side tried themselves by having 2,148 pennies (\$21.48). Our faithful president, Sister Virginia Nelson, is seen (reading from left to right) the first one on the back row, and our secretary and treasurer, Sister J. L. McKay, is the last one on the back row. Our pastor, Brother J. L. McKay, is in the extreme back. Each side worked hard to get its jug full first, because they were anxious to help pay for the shingles, of which we are very proud. Please pray for our Y.P.E. at Amelia that we might still be working when Jesus comes.—J. L. McKay, Pastor.

CAMBRIDGE REVIVAL BRINGS PENTECOSTAL RESULTS A Great Visitation of God's Power in Cambridge, Maryland By Rev. J. C. Jones

God gave us the privilege of having Rev. Thea Jones with us in a healing revival here at the National Guard Armory. The campaign began March 21 and climaxed April 5. I saw scores of lost people come to God in old-time

repentance; also, I saw God work miracles and healings through our Brother Jones. Just like the time of Christ—miracles, signs and wonders were manifested among us. The "prayer of faith" saved the sick, and the Lord brought bountiful blessings to our hearts in this eventful 14-day revival.

Here in Cambridge, we have earnestly prayed for a downpour of God's power—our prayers have been answered. I personally say that this is the move of God this country needed.

Before our very eyes, God opened the eyes of the blind, gave hearing to the deaf, and set those free bound by arthritis and paralytic diseases. Many of the townspeople I knew came for prayer and were healed of cancer, tuberculosis, and delivered of tobacco habits, became believers in Christ and were saved. This meeting reached to the hardest hearts. I am acquainted with the people of this city, and as I sat on the platform and watched, many came in and attended a Pentecostal meeting for the first time. Much prejudice disappeared among denominations as they all freely came and listened to inspiring messages by Brother Jones. I can report that Brother Jones preaches a real Pentecostal message, filled with the inspiration and power of God. This is what it takes to move a conservative town like Cambridge. People fell in love with Brother Jones; they will long remember the messages he preached here.

I stayed very close to Brother Jones as the healing line passed. I watched as God healed a lady that had been deaf since she was five years old. She could hear a whisper after her healing. Another man with cataracts covering his eyes almost completely, came for prayer, and his malady was cured by the power of God. He began to see immediately. This built the faith of the audience, many of whom had never seen these marvelous things. One young man in our city was scheduled to go to a sanatorium because of his tubercular condition, but God touched him and made him well. He gained five pounds in five days after prayer. A lady came for prayer who had been unable to smell; God restored her sense of smell and she was delighted to become normal again. There were many wonderful instances of healings, so many I cannot remember them, but these miracles of healing restored the faith of many Christians and sinners who had become cold to God's power. This has helped my church and has given fire and zeal to all of us here at the Church of God in Cambridge.

Our crowds came from many surrounding towns and villages. They were anxious to see and hear of the strange things happening at the Armory. The whole country here has been stirred by the hand of God, and we believe this revival will remain and grow stronger.

Brother Jones preached some of the best sermons I have heard in my 20 years of ministry. He preaches fervently, real faith-building messages filled with the power of God. He gives Bible references for every point, quotations from the Scripture like I have

never heard before. It is not an outdated message, but it fits our needs today—a message of deliverance for both soul and body. This is the message humanity is hungry for, and it has done us world's of good here. His message, or I should say God's message through him, has reached people of every denomination here. This has been a wonderful opportunity to reach all creeds of people and we have accomplished that. Most of our crowd has been people of nominal denominations—this was their first experience in a Pentecostal meeting, and it must have been inspiring because they responded to the altar call. Many found Christ.

I pastor the only Pentecostal church here, but we were visited by the Church of God pastors in near-by towns and their members. They, too, were delighted at the response to the healing campaign. I believe the influence of our churches in this area will be exceedingly greater due to the results of the revival. We appreciate Brother Jones and his companion, Brother Luther Carroll, and hope they carry on their good work in their future campaigns as they have done here.

CLOSING EXERCISES AT INTERNATIONAL BIBLE COLLEGE

Large crowds gathered at International Bible College, Estevan Saskatchewan, April 16-19, for the closing exercises of the Bible Department. The weather was a bit cold, but the roads were good, and friends gathered from surrounding areas to be with us.

Festivities began Thursday evening (the 16th) with the annual banquet in the dining hall very ably prepared in honor of the graduates by the Junior Class. The dining hall was beautifully decorated in the class colors of blue and gold. Rev. James A. Stephens, our provincial overseer, served as master of ceremonies; Rev. James B. Reesor, pastor of the Church of God, Lemmon, South Dakota, was our guest speaker. Guests included friends and relatives of the graduates, as well as pastors and overseers from surrounding areas.

Friday evening we gathered in the large auditorium for the baccalaureate service. Rev. Manuel F. Campbell, overseer of Montana and Wyoming, presented an inspiring message that we all enjoyed.

Saturday morning the service was of a different order; Rev. L. E. Barrett, one of our Bible School teachers, spoke with the object of acquainting visiting ministers and Christian workers with the different classes and curriculum of the School. On Saturday afternoon Rev. L. E. Painter, overseer of North and South Dakota, spoke to us. Then on Saturday evening the program was presented by the students. A fine musical program was intermingled with short testimonies from each member of the faculty, after which Rev. Norman Holmes, a former graduate and present pastor of the Church of God in Swift Current, presented the message. An offering of \$200 was received toward a new tape-

recorder for "The Church of God on the Air" broadcast.

Sunday was indeed a great day. The weather was fine; cars poured in from every direction, and our seating capacity was taxed to the limit. All available chairs and desks were brought in from the dining hall and classrooms. Sunday morning was commencement service, and six graduates marched in and took their seats at the front of the platform. Rev. David Glover was the speaker and gave a very challenging message. Jack Bridal led the class and was valedictorian; Rita Wright was salutatorian. Joyce Goddard, a high school graduate, also spoke.

A highlight of the service was when William Aspinall, a member of the School Board, presented the diplomas and spoke briefly to each of the graduates.

At the afternoon service, another one of our Bible teachers, Rev. Faye Dyer, gave a stirring message. The offering was taken for a new heating system, and the congregation responded generously with over \$1,000 in cash and pledges.

On Sunday evening a great crowd gathered for the final service. Rev. L. E. Barrett brought a wonderful message, and I am sure it will be long remembered in our hearts. Brother Barrett has served as Bible teacher two years at I.B.C., and it is with deep regret we say "good-bye" to them as they leave us and return to Jamaica, his native land, to serve the Church there. Our prayers go with Brother and Sister Barrett and Linda, and we know our loss is Jamaica's gain.

The services were all under the capable direction of Rev. Darrell Lindsey, president of I.B.C., who had led the School through a very successful year. —Haakon Eliason, High School Principal.

DAVENPORT, Iowa—The Lord has surely blessed us in Davenport since coming here after the Assembly. Our Sunday School has more than doubled and God is moving in all of our services. Our young people raised money to redecorate our church, and we have built a new platform and altar, and sanded and varnished the floors. We are making arrangements to build a balcony and Sunday School rooms now.

In our district convention God did surely bless. In the mission service, at which time our state overseer, J. L. McCoy, preached, we received an offering of \$218, which was almost 3 times what it was last year. There are only 2 churches on the district, Davenport and Muscatine. Brother U. T. Ketchersides is pastor at Muscatine, and they are worshipping in his home, but hope that they soon shall have a building to have services in. The people of Iowa truly appreciate Brother McCoy and his family. Please remember the Northwest in your prayers. It is a rich country, but a mission country, which needs laborers to work for God and His Church. —Barney W. Garrett, Pastor and District Overseer.

REVIVALS

BEATTYVILLE, Ky.—We have just had a revival at Beattyville, with Rev. James Gabbard as the evangelist. Brother Gabbard is just 17 years of age, but he did some wonderful preaching. There were about 8 saved, 5 sanctified, and the church wonderfully blessed. —W. L. Bloomfield, Pastor.

MEHERRIN, Va.—We have had a good revival at the Marble Hill Church of God, with Brother Burchett, of Lynchburg, Va., as the evangelist. He preached under the anointing of the Holy Ghost and prayed for the sick. A number of people testified to being healed and blessed. Eight were saved, 5 sanctified; and 2 baptized with the Holy Ghost. —Mrs. A. H. Shipp, Clerk.

BIG CREEK, Ky.—We have just had a week's revival, with Rev. Clark Napier, of Indiana, doing the preaching. Our pastor, Rev. J. C. Coldwell, conducted the services. One was saved and one filled with the Holy Ghost. Pray for our church. —Frances E. Sparks, Clerk.

KENNESAW, Ga.—We had a revival with Rev. James P. Jackson, of Hixson, Tenn., as the evangelist. Ten were saved, 10 sanctified, and 8 filled with the Holy Ghost. Two have been baptized with the Holy Ghost since the revival closed. We are having wonderful prayer services, and many are being healed. —Mrs. J. L. Anderson, Clerk.

HAMILTON, Ohio, Kenworth Ave.—How we praise God for the great revival He has just given the church here! Wonderful and definite was the presence and power of God each night as Evangelist Bobby Ross, preaching under the anointing of the Holy Ghost, stirred the hearts of saints and sinners. Brother Ross is one of the most Spirit-filled, consecrated, and sincere young ministers in the Church today.

During the revival 23 were saved, 6 sanctified, 5 filled with the Holy Ghost, and 7 added to the church. Perhaps the climax of the revival was the sacred baptismal service at the conclusion, when 15 followed the Lord in baptism, and the Spirit of God fell upon each of them. What a time of rejoicing!

We also praise God for our outstanding pastor and his wife, Rev. and Mrs. Stanley Rippetoe. They came to us in our time of greatest need, when our church had been destroyed by fire and a division had been wrought in our midst by the enemy. How courageous and devoted the Rip-

petoes were in the face of much opposition without and burdens and discouragements on every hand, to lead us in winning a great victory for God and His Church.

Under the inspired leadership of Brother and Sister Rippetoe, we have built a beautiful new church, which is soon to be dedicated. Revival fires are still burning as the altar was filled with hungry souls seeking God in our service last night, and the Lord is still blessing in every way. We give to our God all the praise. —Reporter.

In Memoriam

LAMB

J. T. Lamb, age 59 years, was in an automobile accident on April 29, which resulted in his death on May 1. Brother Lamb was a faithful and devoted member of the Church of God at Belle Glade, Fla. The Church has sustained a great loss in the death of our beloved brother and church clerk, but our loss is heaven's gain. He is survived by his wife, Annie Lamb, 5 sons and 3 daughters. His funeral was conducted by the pastor, assisted by 2 of the former pastors, Rev. A. R. Heaston and Rev. Coleman, of Ruskin, La. —G. D. Prince, Pastor.



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